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*Labor and the Railroads.* By JAMES O. FAGAN. (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1909. Pp. 164. \$1.)

This book travels the road already made familiar by the author's *Confessions of a Railroad Signalman*, and carries us but a very little distance beyond the point reached in the earlier volume. There is the same vigorous criticism of the trade-union, and the same insistence that it deadens individual initiative, narrows the range of individual responsibility, reduces efficiency, checks the development of a spirit of loyalty toward employer, interferes with discipline between the railway manager and the individual culprit, and puts the manager in such an indefensible position in his relations to the public that agreements and schedules are made in secret, and the situation is deprived of the salutary influence of an informed public opinion.

It is not altogether clear what is the author's solution, but apparently it must come through the invigorating influence of publicity, which, when brought to bear directly upon the problem of efficiency, is expected to free the manager from the domination of the brotherhood, and at the same time to free the individual employee from the tyranny of his union and develop in him a sense of loyalty to his task. Amidst the confusion of charge and countercharge, it is impossible for an outsider to get a sufficient grasp of the situation to reach a final judgment as to the merits of the controversy. Certainly the statements of a man who has observed from the inside the workings of the present system cannot be brushed aside without a hearing. As was said in reviewing the earlier volume, if no solution can be found by the parties in dispute, then the public must take a hand, for the interests involved are too momentous to be trifled with much longer.

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*Work and Wages.* In continuation of Lord Brassey's *Work and Wages* and *Foreign Work and English Wages*. Part II. Wages and Employment. By SYDNEY J CHAPMAN, With an introduction by Lord Brassey (London and New York: Longmans, Green and Company. 1908. Pp. 494. \$4 net.)

The first volume of this series was entitled *Foreign Competition*, and the third volume will include industrial betterment, factory